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Dated: _____

Docket No.: 01780/100G859-US1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tom Dubois, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.:

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: ACTIVE COUNTERFORCE HANDLE FOR
USE IN BIDIRECTIONAL DEFLECTABLE
TIP INSTRUMENTS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO/SB/08 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO/SB/08) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO/SB/08 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application. This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

{W:\01780\100G859US1\00102025.DOC [REDACTED] }

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. in the attached form PTO/SB/08 are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application number 09/725,606, filed November 29, 2000 and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: December 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	Not Yet Assigned	
			Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith	
			First Named Inventor	Tom Dubois	
			Art Unit	N/A	
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	01780/100G859-US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1*	6,013,052	01/11/00	Durman et al.	
	2*	6,007,531	12/28/99	Snoke et al.	
	3*	5,944,690	08/31/99	Falwell et al.	
	4*	5,861,024	01/19/99	Rashidi	
	5*	5,681,280	10/28/97	Rusk et al.	
	6*	5,611,777	03/18/97	Bowden et al.	
	7*	5,383,852	01/24/95	Stevens-Wright	
	8*	5,318,525	06/07/94	West et al.	
	9*	5,190,050	03/02/93	Nitzsche	
	10*	5,549,542	8/27/96	Kovalcheck	
	11*	5,741,320	4/21/98	Thorton et al.	
	12*	5,904,667	5/18/99	Falwell	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

W:017 1	Date Considered	
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